



BLAST NUMBER 1 Wyndham Lewis

**BLAST**, edited by Wyndham Lewis and subtitled 'Review of the Great British Vortex', was the magazine of the short-lived Vorticist movement in British art. Influenced by Cubism and Futurism, and Imagism in literature, the Vorticists embraced all things modern and veered towards abstraction. The first issue of **BLAST** was published, with its distinctive puce cover and bold typography, on 20 June 1914, but within weeks war had broken out in Europe. The Vorticists held an exhibition at the Doré Gallery in London in 1915 and a second issue of **BLAST** was published, but the movement did not survive the war. **BLAST** No. 1 includes the Vorticist Manifesto, with their blasts and blesses of all and sundry in British art, and several pieces by Wyndham Lewis, including his play 'Enemy of the Stars'. Other notable contributions include 'The Saddest Story' by Ford Maddox Hueffer (later Ford Madox Ford), which would later become the first chapter of 'The Good Soldier', and a short story by Rebecca West, her first published work. **BLAST** No. 1 also published black and white illustrations of artwork by Wyndham Lewis, Edward Wadsworth, Frederick Etchells, W. Roberts, Jacob Epstein, Gaudier Brzeswska, Cuthbert Hamilton and Spencer Gore. These include some of the first abstract paintings to be produced by British artists. ( Phil Benson)

Read by Phil Benson. Total running time: 5:24:33

This recording is in the public domain and may be reproduced, distributed, or modified without permission. For more information or to volunteer, visit [librivox.org](http://librivox.org). Cover picture based on magazine cover. Copyright expired in U.S., Canada, EU. and all countries with author's life +70 yrs laws. Cover design by Annise. This design is in the public domain

BLAST NUMBER 1 Wyndham Lewis